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August 11, 1997

Office of the Secretary
Federal Trade Commission, Room 159
Sixth and Pennsylvania Avenue, N. W.
Washington, D.C. 20580

Re: "Made in USA Policy Comment"
FTC File No. P894219

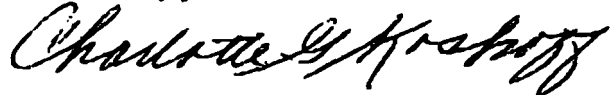
Dear Secretary:

I'm writing to oppose the Federal Trade Commission's (FTC) proposal to allow products with significant foreign parts or significant foreign labor to carry the "Made in the USA" label. I urge the FTC to instead maintain the current standard which requires that all, or virtually all of the parts be made in the United States and all or virtually all of the labor be performed in the United States. The proposed guidelines will dilute the standard so that the "Made in the USA" label would be misleading for consumers, meaningless for their protection, and ineffective as an incentive for keeping production at home.

The proposed standard would allow a manufacturer who knows little or nothing about the origin of component parts of its product - and therefore has no control over or responsibility for worker's safety, environmental standards, and other legitimate concerns invoked in production - to still claim the appropriately highly cherished "Made in the USA," label and all that it implies. Of course this manufacturer also has diminished control over the ultimate safety and durability of the product for consumers.

Allowing the dilution of the "Made in the USA" standard opens the door to conscious fraud or inadvertent deception. It is a bad and unnecessary idea.

Sincerely yours,



Charlotte G. Koskoff